

AGENDA
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SUMMIT METRO PARKS
April 14, 2026

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of March 10, 2026 Previous Board Minutes
4. Executive Director's Reports
5. Items removed from Consent Agenda
6. Consent Agenda Approval of Bills and Resolutions
 - A. Ratification of Bills Paid
 - B. Authorization to Contract with Fish Hatchery
 - C. Authorization to Contract Asphalt Work for Bridge Approaches on the Towpath
 - D. Authorization to Increase Purchase Order for Inspections
 - E. Authorization to Award a Contract for F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm Shelter and Site
 - F. Authorization to Award Contract for Sand Run Paving and Drainage
 - G. Authorization to Request for Qualifications for Architecture for Silver Creek Lakehouse
 - H. Authorization to Apply for Summit County Community Grant for Silver Creek Trail
 - I. Authorization to Sign a Contract for Deep Lock Quarry Canal Lands South Survey
7. Unfinished/Old Business & New Business
8. Correspondence & Public Portion
9. Executive Session
10. Future Board Meeting Dates/Adjourn

April 14, 2026

Minutes of Proceedings
Of
The Board of Park Commissioners
Of
Summit Metro Parks

The Board of Park Commissioners of Summit Metro Parks met on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 11:30 A.M., at the F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm, 1828 Smith Rd., Akron, OH 44313.

ITEM 1: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was opened by Herbert Newman, Chair, with the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ITEM 2: ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Herb Newman, Chair, Joel D. Bailey, First Vice-Chair, Jill M. Stritch, Second Vice-Chair, Rev. Dr. Curtis T. Walker Sr., Member, S. Theresa Carter, Member, and Lisa M. King, Executive Director. Also in attendance were Jen Harvey, Mike Johnson, Dee Falconer, Lindsay Smith, Aaron Hockman, Mark Szeremet, Angie Hardman, Josh Hamblen, Dale Fobean, Dave Kamps, Julie Guenther, Amy Jones, Dana Mileti and Jessica Rice.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF MARCH 10, 2026 PREVIOUS BOARD MINUTES

Resolution 37.2026

Following discussion, it was moved by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Ms. Stritch, that the minutes of the March 10, 2026, board meeting were approved. The previous minutes were emailed for the Commissioners' review.

The vote being:	Herbert Newman	Aye
	Joel D. Bailey	Aye
	Jill M. Stritch	Aye
	Rev. Dr. Curtis T. Walker Sr.	Aye
	S. Theresa Carter	Aye

ITEM 4: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

The Executive Director's reports were reviewed and discussed. Copies of these reports are attached at the end of the minutes.

ITEM 5: ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

- None

ITEM 6: CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 38.2026

Following discussion, it was moved by Rev. Walker, seconded by Ms. Carter, that the consent agenda items of the Board of Park Commissioners were approved. All supporting documents are at the end of this report.

The vote being:

Herbert Newman	Aye
Joel D. Bailey	Aye
Jill M. Stritch	Aye
Rev. Dr. Curtis T. Walker Sr.	Aye
S. Theresa Carter	Aye

A. RATIFICATION OF BILLS PAID

OPERS	March 2026	\$136,257.36
Medicare	February 2026	\$13,659.97
Interim Bills	March 31, 2026	\$1,844,828.78
Payroll	March 13, 2026	\$495,106.11
Payroll	March 27, 2026	\$463,618.89
TOTAL	BALANCE	\$2,953,471.11

Resolution 39.2026

The action of the Executive Director in paying the above bills was hereby ratified.

B. AUTHORIZATION TO CONTRACT WITH FISH HATCHERY

Summit Metro Parks promotes recreational youth fishing to help participants connect with nature and cultivate an appreciation for the outdoors. Youth fishing events are held in both spring and fall at several locations: Alder Pond (Goodyear Heights Metro Park), Brushwood Pond (Furnace Run Metro Park), Little Turtle Pond (Firestone Metro Park), Munroe Falls Lake (Munroe Falls Metro Park), and unnamed ponds at Tinkers Creek Area of Liberty Park and Wood Hollow Metro Park.

Smaller ponds require periodic stocking of larger fish due to heavy fishing pressure, while larger lakes, rivers, and ponds (e.g., Summit Lake, Long Lake, Nimisila Reservoir) sustain naturally reproducing fisheries with minimal supplemental input. Stocked species include largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish.

The Executive Director requested authorization to contract with Fenders Fish Hatchery for spring and fall delivery of stock fish to the designated sites 5–10 days prior to scheduled events. The total cost will not exceed \$44,000, with a portion of funding requested from the Summit Metro Parks Foundation, which manages a youth fishing fund.

Resolution 40.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to contract with Fenders Fish Hatchery for spring and fall delivery of stock fish to the designated sites 5–10 days prior to scheduled events. The total cost will not exceed \$44,000, with a portion of funding requested from the Summit Metro Parks Foundation, which manages a youth fishing fund.

C. AUTHORIZATION TO CONTRACT ASPHALT WORK FOR BRIDGE APPROACHES ON THE TOWPATH

Asphalt at multiple bridge approaches on the Towpath Trail requires repairs due to settling. Quotes for contracting this work were received.

Summary of quotes:

Cardinal Asphalt Company, Inc	\$43,000.00
Barbicas Construction Company Inc.	\$70,281.00

The Executive Director requested authorization to enter a contract with Cardinal Asphalt Company, Inc., to remove and replace asphalt at multiple bridge approaches for the quoted amount of \$43,000.00 and request an additional 10% contingency, at a cost not to exceed \$47,300.00.

Resolution 41.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to enter a contract with Cardinal Asphalt Company, Inc., to remove and replace asphalt at multiple bridge approaches for the quoted amount of \$43,000.00 and the additional 10% contingency, at a cost not to exceed \$47,300.00.

D. AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE PURCHASE ORDER FOR INSPECTIONS

In September of 2025 the Board of Park Commissioners authorized staff to award The GPD Group with a contract for engineering, design, assembling of construction documents, permitting, and bidding assistance for the District Wide Restroom Replacement project consisting of Sand Run Metro Park - Old Portage Area, O’Neil Woods Metro Park, Sand Run Metro Park – Big Bend Area, and Goodyear Metro Park – Pioneer area. The work was to be performed on an hourly basis, not to exceed \$265,000. The prefabricated restrooms at Sand Run Metro Park – Old Portage Area and O’Neil Woods Metro Park require special inspections for the soil. The GPD Group provided a lump sum quote of \$8,000 to perform the work.

The Executive Director requested authorization to enter a revised contract with The GPD Group and increase the Purchase Order to include geotechnical services to observe and perform soil inspections. The work would be performed on a lump sum basis and will not exceed \$8,000.

Resolution 42.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to enter a revised contract with The GPD Group and increase the Purchase Order to include geotechnical services to observe and perform soil inspections. The work would be performed on a lump sum basis and will not exceed \$8,000.

E. AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR F.A. SEIBERLING NATURE REALM SHELTER AND SITE

In February of 2026, the Board of Park Commissioners authorized the staff to advertise for construction bids for the F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm Open Shelter Area project. The scope of work includes an ADA accessible site and earthwork improvements, installation of a prefabricated wooden shelter, new concrete walkway, water fountain, portable toilet pad, landscaping and park amenities. The shelter will provide a location to gather school groups, hold naturalist programs, and the public can enjoy.

A summary of the bid results:

The R. J. Platten Contracting Co.	\$211,646.45
Srokowski Construction	\$224,990.00
Northeast Ohio Trenching Service, Inc.	\$249,388.00
Cavanaugh Building Corporation	\$269,126.00
Hemming Construction Co.	\$304,900.00

Bids have been received and reviewed by staff and the apparent lowest and best bid is from The R.J. Platten Construction Co.

The Executive Director requested authorization to sign a contract with The R.J. Platten Construction Co. for the F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm Shelter Area project in the amount of \$211,646.45 and requests an additional 10% contingency, for a total cost not to exceed \$235,000.00.

Resolution 43.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to sign a contract with The R.J. Platten Construction Co. for the F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm Shelter Area project in the amount of \$211,646.45 and requests an additional 10% contingency, for a total cost not to exceed \$235,000.00.

F. AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR SAND RUN PAVING AND DRAINAGE

In February of 2026, authorization was granted to solicit bids for paving and drainage improvements in Sand Run Metro Park. The project would replace drainage culverts and repave Sand Run Parkway from the ford crossing west to Revere Road.

Staff received the following Bids:

Northstar Asphalt, Inc.	\$ 659,156.45
Karvo Companies, Inc.	\$ 777,885.59
Perrin Asphalt Co.	\$ 787,428.60
Geauga Highway Co.	\$ 805,823.45
Barbicas Construction Co.	\$ 891,334.10
Phillips Paving LLC	\$ 930,020.00

Bids have been received and reviewed by staff and determined Northstar Asphalt, Inc., to be the lowest and best bid.

The Executive Director requested authorization to sign a contract with Northstar Asphalt, Inc. for the base bid amount plus a 10% contingency for a cost not to exceed \$ 725,100.00.

Resolution 44.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to sign a contract with Northstar Asphalt, Inc. for the base bid amount plus a 10% contingency for a cost not to exceed \$ 725,100.00.

G. AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ARCHITECTURE FOR SILVER CREEK LAKEHOUSE

In 2025, the park district did a building assessment on the Silver Creek Bathhouse Building and had concept plans prepared to see what a renovated space could become for visitors in the future. The next phase of this transformation is to advertise and request qualifications to provide architectural design, bid documents, renderings and construction costs to renovate the current Silver Creek Bathhouse Building. Qualifications will be evaluated by staff, and the board will be asked to award a design contract at a future board meeting.

The Executive Director requested authorization to advertise for qualifications for architectural services for the Silver Creek Lakehouse Building renovation.

Resolution 45.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to advertise for qualifications for architectural services for the Silver Creek Lakehouse Building renovation.

H. AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR SUMMIT COUNTY COMMUNITY GRANT FOR SILVER CREEK TRAIL

Summit County Government, through Ohio & Erie Canalway, distributes funding for multi-purpose trails annually, through the Summit County Community Grant program. The six-mile multi-purpose trail will include 10' asphalt wide trail with connections to existing parking along with signage. Staff is asking for \$10,000 for assistance in engineering and phasing the trail construction.

The Executive Director requested authorization to apply for \$10,000 from the Summit County Community grant program.

Resolution 46.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to apply for \$10,000 from the Summit County Community grant program.

I. AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR DEEP LOCK QUARRY CANAL LANDS SOUTH SURVEY

The park district annually budgets money to complete boundary surveys for all park properties. The staff proposes to conduct a boundary survey of the canal lands property south of Deep Lock Quarry Metro Park, which contains approximately 17 acres in the Village of Peninsula. The surveyor will provide a metes and bounds survey, install permanent survey monuments, locate existing easements and encroachments, create a legal description with property consolidation, locate or set iron pins at property corners and set orange fiberglass markers which identify the property owner as Summit Metro Parks.

Staff received the following proposals.

BG Engineering	\$35,500.00
EDG Group	\$39,700.00
Hammontree & Associates	\$42,750.00
DLZ did not submit	

The Executive Director requested authorization to sign a contract with BG Engineering to complete the boundary survey at Deep Lock Quarry Metro Park for \$35,500.00.

Resolution 47.2026

Executive Director was authorized to sign a contract with BG Engineering to complete the boundary survey at Deep Lock Quarry Metro Park for \$35,500.00.

ITEM 7: UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- None

ITEM 8: CORRESPONDENCE

- None

PUBLIC PORTION

- Dana Mileti,
F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm Shelter

ITEM 9: EXECUTIVE SESSION: O.R.C. §121.22, (G) (1), (G) (2), (G) (3) AND (G) (4)

I ask for a Motion that the Board of Park Commissioners adjourn to Executive Session to consider appointment, employment, discipline, investigation, promotion, demotion/compensation of a Summit Metro Parks employee, O.R.C. §121.22, (G) (1); the purchase of property for a public purpose pursuant to O.R.C. §121.22, (G) (2); to confer with counsel concerning disputes that are the subject of pending litigation and imminent litigation pursuant to O.R.C. §121.22, (G) (3); and to prepare for discussions with public employees concerning terms and conditions of employment pursuant to O.R.C. §121.22, (G) (4).

Resolution 48.2026

Following discussion, it was moved by Rev. Walker, seconded by Mr. Bailey, that the Board of Park Commissioners adjourn to executive session.

Resolution 48.2026

Following discussion, it was moved by Rev. Walker, seconded by Mr. Bailey, that the Board of Park Commissioners adjourn to executive session.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Herbert Newman	Aye
Joel D. Bailey	Aye
Jill M. Stritch	Aye
Rev. Dr. Curtis T. Walker Sr.	Aye
S. Theresa Carter	Aye

Resolution 49.2026

Following discussion, it was moved by Ms. Stritch, seconded by Ms. Carter, that the Board of Park Commissioners return to open session.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Herbert Newman	Aye
Joel D. Bailey	Aye
Jill M. Stritch	Aye
Rev. Dr. Curtis T. Walker Sr.	Aye
S. Theresa Carter	Aye

The Board returned to open session.

Resolution 50.2026

Following discussion, it was moved by Ms. Stritch, seconded by Mr. Bailey, that the Board of Park Commissioners approved an increase of the Executive Director's salary by \$216.80 per bi-weekly pay period for 2026 retro from January 1st, 2026.

The vote being:

Herbert Newman	Aye
Joel D. Bailey	Aye
Jill Stritch	Aye
Rev. Dr. Curtis T. Walker, Sr.	Aye
S. Theresa Carter	Aye

Resolution 51.2026

Following discussion, it was moved by Rev. Walker, seconded by Ms. Carter, that the Executive Director was authorized to sign a purchase and sale agreement for the Pigeon Creek South property at a cost of \$130,000.00 and further gives Lisa M. King, Executive Director, authority to sign on behalf of Summit Metro Parks.

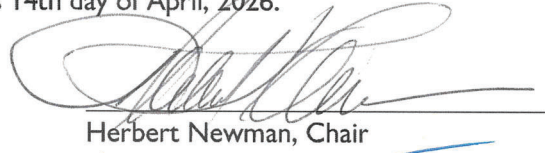
The vote being:

Herbert Newman	Aye
Joel D. Bailey	Aye
Jill Stritch	Aye
Rev. Dr. Curtis T. Walker, Sr.	Aye
S. Theresa Carter	Aye

ITEM 10: FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES

- Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm
- Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm
- Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm
- Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm
- Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm (*Foundation*)
- Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm
- Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm (*Foundation*)
- Tuesday, December 8, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm

There being no further business to transact, the meeting adjourned IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand, this 14th day of April, 2026.


Herbert Newman, Chair


Lisa M. King, Executive Director

True copies emailed to all Commissioners on April 17, 2026.

ITEM 4: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

	North Region	Central Region	South Region	Administrative Office
Public Programs	18	26	18	
Outreach Programs	7	4	5	
Program Attendance	2263	913	596	
Phone Calls	84	180	51	1216
Building Visitation	2230	3817	704	191

- The North Region had a successful maple sugaring season, highlighted by hosting the March board meeting at Liberty Park Nature Center, where we showcased LPNC's own maple syrup. This month, staff delivered 22 on-site and off-site programs, reaching over 1,900 participants, sharing the history and process of maple sugaring with all ages. Maple Mania weekend welcomed more than 800 attendees and ran seamlessly, thanks to the outstanding support of 20 dedicated volunteers and park experienced staff.



- The Central Region was hoppin' during March! A program series, Friday Night Frogs, kicked off the spring season with a hike at various locations in SMP. Naturalists contributed to social media posts, newspaper articles and to Green Islands magazine by engaging visitors through imagery, graphics and activities featuring our area's amphibians.
- The South Region kicked off the spring season with our seasonal exhibit changes adding an interactive Wild Back Yards children's play area at the Summit Lake Nature Center including seeds, weeds, and garden critters. We welcomed the return of gardening programs with our first Kids in the Garden and Good Garden Talks programs, where we planted seeds and built bluebird boxes. Next month, we look forward to piloting a new teen Outdoor Adventure Spring Break Camp hosted at Firestone Metro Park.

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

- Citizen Science trainings are ongoing.
- Elaine Marsh was a guest speaker at the Environmental Law Conference in Columbus, Ohio, in March. She presented on the *Free the Falls* campaign and provided a project update.
- Dredging for the Gorge Dam project has resumed, with weekly checks of sediment spoil continuing.

- Cultural Resource staff met with representatives from the State Historic Preservation Office to discuss listing Wheelock Cuyahoga Acres on the National Register of Historic Places. The site is an intact archaeological area that reflects the Great Migration and Black history. Also present at the site meeting were living descendants of two resident families (Prather and Johnson families).



- A comprehensive training day has been scheduled for operations staff, providing a deeper dive into conservation work and the role operations play in protecting park resources.

- Park staff and representatives from the State Historic Preservation Office at the Johnson House; part of Proposed Wheelock Cuyahoga Acres National Register of Historic Places Designation.

HUMAN RESOURCES

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES:

- 10 Years of Service: Supervisor of Cultural Resources Megan Shaeffer

PROMOTIONS:

- Stuart Davis to Park Technician I

NEW HIRES:

- Megan Valloric as Human Resources Coordinator

SEASONALS:

With multiple start dates in the coming months, we've hired 7/10 conservation and 17/51 operations seasonals with two (2) seasonal employees reaching the end of their season with Summit Metro Parks. Our first seasonal orientation takes place April 21.

POSTINGS:

- 03/10/2026: Part-Time, Year-Round, Park Technician – Cascade Valley
- 03/17/2026: Police Officer
- 03/18/2026: Park Technician I – Sand Run
- 03/23/2026: Seasonal Naturalist
- 03/24/2026: Part-Time, Year-Round Interpretive Naturalist

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:

- **Volunteer Engagement** | In March 2025, 128 reoccurring volunteers reported 1,029 hours for an average of eight hours per volunteer. Volunteers participated in 21 assignments across four departments including supporting Maple Mania.
- **Recruitment** | We onboarded 30 new reoccurring volunteers to assist with roles across the conservation, marketing and community engagement departments. Additionally, 45 prospective volunteers expressed interest within March via the volunteer communication



signup at summitmetroparks.org/volunteer. All were added to receive communications about episodic opportunities throughout the year as recruitment for reoccurring volunteer roles commenced for the season.

- **Group Interest** | In March, a corporate and youth group assisted with Munroe Falls grounds maintenance on separate days. Additionally, 12 requests have been submitted by corporate or youth groups looking for service opportunities this spring. So far, three have a confirmed project. The form can be completed at summitmetroparks.org/volunteer.
- **First Quarter Review** | In the first quarter of 2026 (Jan-Mar), 179 volunteers (ongoing and episodic) reported 2,369 hours for an average of 13 hours per volunteer. Volunteers participated in 29 assignments across eight departments.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

- **This April**, the Marketing department is focused on:
 - Preparations and beginning promotions for Spree for All (5/1-6/30)
 - Supporting the Mother's Day 5K (5/10) and Native Plant Festival (5/16)
 - Communications related to the Free the Falls project at Gorge Metro Park and upcoming Public Progress Update Event (4/28)



2026 Spree for All commemorative pin

- **Media coverage in March** included mentions or stories in the following outlets: Akron Beacon Journal (trail to John Brown monument, salamander migration), American Infrastructure (EPA resumes sediment dredging), Cleveland.com (most visited parks, Wild & Scenic Film Festival), Federal Newswire (EPA resumes sediment dredging), NewsBreak (EPA resumes sediment dredging), Ohio Magazine (spring events), Patch (Gorge Dam removal), Port Clinton News Herald (salamander migration), Signal Akron (cultural resources work at Wheelock Cuyahoga Acres), Spectrum News 1 (EPA resumes sediment dredging, protecting salamanders during migration, lake sturgeon reintroduction), Substack (Summit Metro Parks and trails) and The Columbus Dispatch (statewide proposed hunting season changes).
- **Maple Leaf Gifts** staff processed more than \$5,110 in March, with nearly \$1,500 in sales at the Maple Mania event (Liberty Park)! They completely sold out of the local maple syrup and maple candy. Additionally, several pop-up shops have been scheduled for this spring. The full list through May can be viewed on the website.
- Marketing continues to coordinate a marketing campaign focused on the **Wild Back Yards** initiative. Advertising and social media promotions will increase throughout the months of April and May, and the Wild Back Yards Partner program will be in the spotlight for municipalities, businesses and other organizations that have an interest in adopting the Wild Back Yards concept.
 - All are also invited to join an event at HiHO Brewing Company for the release of their Wild Back Yards Pale Ale (which supports the Summit Metro Parks Foundation). The event is Wednesday, April 29 from 3 to 10 p.m.
- As the effort to “**Free the Falls**” continues with dredging resuming at Gorge Metro Park, we will support a Public Progress Update event for the public on Tuesday, April 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the Akron-Summit County Public Library Main Branch in Akron.

OPERATIONS

- **Seasonal Recruitment:** Active hiring through local high school, college and community job fairs.
- **Wood Hollow Trail Improvements:** Project temporarily paused due to weather. Approximately 2,100 feet of boardwalk have been removed; surfacing will resume when conditions allow. All amenities and unaffected trail sections remain open.

- **Spring Prep & Cleanup:** Seasonal maintenance is underway, including opening water fountains and opening winterized restrooms, asphalt repairs, and cleaning of landscape beds and turf areas. Crews are also preparing for May events (Spree for All, Mother’s Day 5k, and the Native Plant Festival).
- **Shelter Repairs:** We are replacing Sherman, White Spar, and Mountain Bike Trail shelter roofs. Structural posts are also being replaced at all three Munroe Falls Lake Area shelters.
- **Silver Creek Dam Observation Deck:** Staff are securing quotes to replace the stringers, decking and railing.
- **Himelright Lodge:** Plans have been finalized and staff are actively securing quotes to improve the service and delivery access for renters.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

- **Central Maintenance Facility:** Construction is on-going with HVAC, insulation and electrical utilities being installed; along with starting site work this month. *(Pictured: Framing, HVAC and electric being installed)*



- **Freedom Trail – Phase 4a:** Trail work has started up again in downtown Akron. We have lights, fencing, safety railings and plantings taking place. *(Pictured: lighting, railings and fence; (below) plantings and switchback from University Ave.)*



- **Freedom Trail – Southwest Bridge:** The existing bridge was removed due to age and high maintenance and was replaced with a precast concrete box culvert. All work on the culvert has been completed and waiting currently for asphalt to re-pave the trail. (Pictured: Culvert installed with restoration)



- **Summit County Trail & Greenway Plan:** Trail connectivity in the region is a key goal for the park district and partners across Summit County. We are in the process of updating the plan which identifies trail and greenways in Summit County.

- **ADA Transition Plan:** The planning department is working to identify and prioritize ADA projects across the park district. We are currently working on a GIS/database system that will help us keep track with progress, location and type of project. With the help of our operations department, we are revamping our current kiosks to be ADA accessible across all parks.

GRANT ACTIVITY

Grants-Pending: (Application made, awaiting word)

Ohio & Erie Canalway Association	Silver Creek Metro Park Trail Design	\$ 20,000
Clean Ohio Conservation Fund	Slipper Run Conservation Area	\$ 1,730,000
Total		\$ 1,750,000

Grants-Awarded:

Ohio & Erie Canalway Association	Big Bend Trailhead Upgrades	\$ 20,000
ODNR Division of Forestry	Rx STEP 2025-10	\$ 3,333
Summit County Community Grant	Western Access to Cuyahoga Valley	\$ 10,000
Ohio & Erie Canalway Association	Sagamore Hills Trail Engineering and Design	\$ 20,000
Clean Ohio Trail Fund	Freedom Trail Phase 4	\$ 500,000
FHWA - AMATS	Freedom Trail Phase 4 (2024)	\$ 700,000
O&ECC - Summit County Community Grant	Freedom Trail Phase 4 Engineering and Design	\$ 5,000
Total		\$ 1,258,333

POLICE DEPARTMENT

	Total
Incident Reports	24
Foot Patrol	547 Hours
Visitor Contacts	2,455

- On March 23, we hosted a regional training course, Legally Confident, Tactically Confident instructed by Objectively Reasonable (Robert Meader Esq. and Chief Scott Hughes) at Coventry Oaks Lodge where all mandatory CPT topics were taught. A total of 18 outside agencies attended with our officers and commissioned park managers. The park district received exceptional feedback on both the level of instruction and facility.
- During the month of March, we deployed our new Axon Body 4 body-worn cameras to all officers. The Body 4 features an updated camera with better resolution, longer battery life, and improved security and storage: XTS-AES 256 encryption and 128GB solid-state hard drive for secure footage storage. The Body 4 also comes equipped with Axon AI assistant and features real-time translation. The assistant automatically translates speech from 50+ languages to help communicate clearly during traffic stops, calls for service, and other community interactions, all through the camera.
- During the week of March 9, Sgt. Rebecca Deem and Sgt. Joseph Gmerek attended the FBI-LEEDA Supervisor Leadership Institute (SLI) which is a four-and-a-half-day seminar developed uniquely for supervisors and middle managers to enhance leadership competencies. The course is highly interactive and follows FBI-LEEDA's "Cops Teaching Cops" model of professional development. Topics included the following: Supervisory Leadership, Supervisory Credibility and Authenticity, Law Enforcement Liability, Police Discipline, DISC Behavior and Leadership, and Leading Generations.
- On March 22-23, Sgt. Joseph Gmerek and Officer Kelly Brown attended the ALICE Certified Instructor course. ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) Training is the leading program for

response to violent critical incidents (VCI). VCIs are man-made forms of violent disaster, including active shooter, violent intruder, mass shooting, terrorism, workplace violence and other unexpected tragedies. We will be implementing this training to all community engagement staff at our nature centers during 2026.

TRAINING

Axon TASER Instructor Certification

When: April 29-30

Attendees: Officers Michael Phillips, Kathy Kwasnik, Joseph Gonser

2026 MONTHLY WORK FORCE REPORT, SUMMIT METRO PARKS

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Full Time Employees, Job Positions												
Accounting/Payroll Manager (1)	1	1	1									
Accounting/Payroll Specialist (1)	1	1	1									
Administrative Office Mgr/Executive Asst. (1)	1	1	1									
Assistant Park Manager (2)	1	1	1									
Assistant Purchasing Manager (1)	1	1	1									
Brand Manager (1)	1	1	1									
Carpenter (1)	1	1	1									
Chief of Community Engagement (1)	1	1	1									
Chief of Conservation (1)	1	1	1									
Chief of Finance (1)	1	1	1									
Chief of Human Resources & Admin (1)	1	1	1									
Chief of Marketing & Communications (1)	1	1	1									
Chief of Operations (1)	1	1	1									
Chief of Planning (1)	1	1	1									
Chief of Philanthropy (1)	1	1	1									
Chief of Police (1)	1	1	1									
Civil Engineer/Construction Supervisor (1)	1	1	1									
Community Engagement Coordinator (3)	3	3	3									
Community Engagement Manager (3)	3	3	3									
Community Engagement Specialists (2)	2	2	2									
Crew Leader I (9)	9	9	9									
Crew Leader II (3)	3	3	3									
Cultural Resource Specialist (1)	1	1	1									
Customer Service Rep (2)	2	2	2									
Donor Relations Coordinator (1)	1	1	1									
Donor Relations Specialist (1)	1	1	1									
Executive Director (1)	1	1	1									
Events Specialist (1)	1	1	1									
Fleet Manager (1)	1	1	1									
Forestry Crew Leader (1)	1	1	1									
Forestry Technician (1)	1	1	1									
Graphic Designer (2)	2	2	2									
Horticulturalist (1)	1	1	1									
Human Resources Coordinator (1)	0	0	1									
Human Resources Manager (1)	1	1	1									
Interpretive Artist (1)	1	1	1									
Interpretive Naturalist (6)	6	6	6									
Land Compliance Project Manager (1)	1	1	1									
Landscape Architect (1)	1	1	1									
Lead Mechanic (1)	1	1	1									
Lead Naturalist (1)	1	1	1									
Maintenance/Utility Technician (2)	2	2	2									
Manager Volunteer Programs (1)	1	1	1									
Marketing Assistant (1)	1	1	1									
Marketing & Public Relations Manager (1)	1	1	1									
Marketing Specialist (1)	1	1	1									
Mechanic (1)	1	1	1									
Mechanic - Small Engine (1)	1	1	1									
Natural Resources Project Manager (1)	1	1	1									
Operations Project Manager (2)	2	2	2									
Operations Service Manager (1)	1	1	1									
Park Biologist (3)	3	3	3									
Park Manager I (3)	3	3	3									
Park Manager II (8)	8	8	8									
Park Planner (1)	1	1	1									
Park Technician I (36)	36	36	37									
Park Technician II (1)	0	0	0									
Park Technician III (5)	4	4	4									
Planning & Development Project Manager (1)	1	1	1									

APEX ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO INC	Maintenance Materials	2,086.70
ASSURED PARTNERS CAPITAL INC	Liability Insurance	422.00
JUSTIN IGNITION COMPANY	Equipment Supplies	241.54
AUTOMATION MAILING & SHIPPING SOLUTIONS INC	Postage Machine Rental	469.00
BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION BUREAU LLC	Background Checks	47.50
BAIR'S INC	Equipment Supplies	187.33
BAKER VEHICLE SYSTEMS INC	Vehicle Supplies	760.30
BARTZI, MATTHEW J	Conference Reimbursement	16.34
BASIC BENEFITS LLC	COBRA & FSA Administration	318.58
BIRDTOWN ADVENTURES LLC	Program Supplies	84.80
BUCKEYE UNIFORMS INC	Uniforms	90.95
BUCKINGHAM DOOLITTLE & BURROUGHS	Legal Services	5,650.00
BULLER, AMELIA	Gift Shop Items	175.00
CAMMEL SAW COMPANY INC	Tool Sharpening	84.02
CAR PARTS WAREHOUSE INC	Vehicle Supplies	389.87
CERMAK, JAMES J	Gift Shop Items	529.45
CHARLES E HARRIS & ASSOCIATES INC	Accounting Services	2,500.00
CITY OF AKRON	Water Service	2,868.95
CITY OF AKRON	Plan Review Fee	346.50
CITY OF BARBERTON	Water Service	85.26
CITY OF CLEVELAND	Water Service	131.29
CITY OF CUYAHOGA FALLS	Electric & Water Service	257.93
CITY OF HUDSON	Electric Service	13.50
CITY OF MUNROE FALLS	Water Service	97.89
CITY OF STOW	Water Service	66.41
CLEVELAND VICON CO INC	Maintenance Materials	690.00
COLIN BAKER	Advertising	2,295.00
COMDOC INC	Copier Service Contract	70.80
CRANDALL CO INC	Vehicle Supplies	985.75
CURTIS, EMILY M	Gift Shop Items	421.25
DATABASE MARKETING INNOVATORS INC	Mailing Services	147.18
DRN ENTERPRISES INC	Elevator Service	1,796.00
EAST OHIO GAS COMPANY	Gas Service	3,497.11
ENTERPRISE FM TRUST	Vehicle Lease	44,670.86
ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN GROUP LLC	Connector Trail Design	1,006.88
ENVIROSCIENCE INC	Biomonitoring Survey	1,203.50
EUROFINS ENVIRONMENT TESTING AMERICA HOLDING INC	Water Testing	30.00
JAVANS MECHWART HAMBLETON & TILTON INC	Bridge Design and Permitting	36,277.76
JAVANS MECHWART HAMBLETON & TILTON INC	Engineering Services	5,728.01
E-VOLVE CREATIVE GROUP LLC	Website Services	11,770.00
FALLS FLAG & BANNER	Maintenance Materials	52.20
FALLSWAY EQUIPMENT CO INC	Equipment Repairs	450.38
FAMOUS DISTRIBUTION INC	Maintenance Materials	1,019.53
FASTENAL COMPANY	Maintenance Materials	111.76
FIRST COMMUNICATIONS LLC	Phone & Internet Services	6,308.96
FOLKMANIS INC	Gift Shop Items	1,476.93
FORESTRY SUPPLIERS INC	Maintenance Supplies	175.00
FRED W ALBRECHT GROCERY COMPANY	Program Supplies	285.09
GALLS PARENT HOLDINGS LLC	Uniforms	551.15
GATEWAY PRODUCTS RECYCLING INC	Shredding Service	16.72
GEMPLERS INC	Maintenance Supplies	34.99
GENUINE PARTS COMPANY	Equipment Supplies	58.94
GLAUS PYLE SCHOMER BURNS & DEHAVEN INC	Restroom Replacement Design Services	48,884.41
GLOBAL ARCHERY PRODUCTS INC	Program Supplies	2,470.45
HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK	Safe Deposit Rentals	315.00
W ARSENAL & MACHINE INC	Maintenance Materials	3,515.00
JACKSON HIRSH INC	Office Supplies	237.72

JD WILLIAMSON CONSTRUCTION CO INC	Bridge Construction	215,415.00
KAMM STAR CONTRACTORS LLC	HVAC Maintenance	12,180.50
ASTNER WESTMAN & WILKINS LLC	Legal Services	319.00
ASTNER WESTMAN & WILKINS LLC	Employee Training	1,925.00
KEEN COMMUNICATIONS LLC	Gift Shop Items	429.16
KEITH C LUCKS EXTREME TREE SERVICE LLC	Invasive Tree Removal	5,800.00
KG NORTON LLC	Vehicle Supplies & Repair	1,357.40
KROMHARD TWIST DRILL LLC	Maintenance Materials	92.69
KUBICKI ENTERPRISES INC	Maintenance Materials & Supplies	51.55
KURTZ BROS INC	Maintenance Materials	563.00
LEPPO INC	Equipment Rental	1,295.00
LEXIPOL LLC	Law Enforcement Policy & Procedures	18,927.00
M&M CERTIFIED WELDING	Equipment Repair	390.00
MANN MARKETING INC	Gift Shop Items	594.25
MANN MARKETING INC	Promotional Giveaways	17,461.35
MARS ELECTRIC CO INC	Maintenance Materials	179.40
MCDONALD HOPKINS LLC	Legal Services	3,430.00
MCMASTER CARR SUPPLY CO	Maintenance Materials	41.64
MEDICAL MUTUAL OF OHIO	Vision Claims & Administration	410.88
MIDWEST MOTOR SUPPLY CO INC	Equipment Supplies	98.48
S CONSULTANTS INC	Trailhead Feasibility Study	2,121.64
MULTI SERVICE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS INC	Uniforms	1,467.70
MURDOCK INDUSTRIAL INC	Equipment Supplies	1,013.92
MYTEE INC	Maintenance Materials	170.25
NATIONAL LIME & STONE COMPANY	Maintenance Materials	623.71
NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT	Sewer Service	63.50
OHIO AFSCME CARE PLAN	Ohio AFSCME Care Plan	929.25
OHIO EDISON CO	Electric Service	19,477.74
OHIO REAL TITLE AGENCY LLC	Land Purchase	1,077,397.00
OLIGER SEED CO	Maintenance Supplies	221.80
ORCHARD HILTZ & MCCLIMENT INC	Boundary Survey	4,000.00
ORCHARD HILTZ & MCCLIMENT INC	Corridor Feasibility Study	5,565.00
OREILLY AUTO ENTERPRISES LLC	Vehicle Supplies	455.67
OSBORN ENGINEERING COMPANY	Design Services	197.97
PPG ARCHITECTURAL FINISHES INC	Maintenance Supplies	104.74
PRO ARMAMENT COMPANY	Uniforms	209.97
PROBE TECHNOLOGIES LTD	Computer Services & Equipment	28,684.94
ARESTEP INC	Fleet Software Subscription	21,405.00
AUSCHENBACH, JAY	Conference Reimbursement	127.60
RCR WASTE MANAGEMENT LLC	Composting Service	52.32
REPROS INC	Maintenance Materials	46.20
REPUBLIC SERVICES INC	Disposal Services	3,246.08
RICHARD L BOWEN & ASSOCIATES INC	Architectural Services	13,973.04
RICHARDS WHOLESALE FENCE CO INC	Maintenance Materials	13.48
ROETZEL & ANDRESS LPA	Legal Services	553.00
RPM INDUSTRIAL COATINGS GROUP INC	Maintenance Materials	280.85
RUSHBOLDT, DANETTE M	Program Reimbursement	22.00
SACKMANN STAMP AND STENCIL CO INC	Office Supplies	12.98
SAFARI PROGRAMS INC	Gift Shop Items	460.94
SANTMYER ENERGY INC	Fuel Delivery	16,713.57
SECURITAS ELECTRONIC SECURITY INC	Security Monitoring Services	2,125.89
SHERWIN WILLIAMS CO	Maintenance Supplies	186.20
SOCIAL DEPT LLC	Gift Shop Items	1,705.00
SOHARS ALL SEASON MOWER SERVICE INC	Equipment Supplies	1,181.31
STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY	Life Insurance	465.64
ANWADE METAL PRODUCTS INC	Maintenance Materials	63.76
STAT INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGIES INC	Aquatic Management Program	6,250.00

SUMMIT COUNTY OH	Animal Control	180.00
SUMMIT IT SOLUTIONS INC	Website Services	145.00
SUMMIT METRO PARKS	FSA & Visa Reimbursement Check	61,887.12
SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA	Dental Claims & Administration	4,672.10
SUNBELT RENTALS INC	Equipment Rental	238.57
SWAN HARDWARE INC	Program Supplies	960.00
TERRY LUMBER & SUPPLY CO	Maintenance Materials	854.03
TESSELLATE LLC	Software License Renewal	6,000.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CORP (TASC)	HSA Contributions	3,644.40
ULINE INC	Office Supplies	1,050.42
US DEPT OF AGRICULTURE	Wildlife Management	1,668.75
VEIT LLC	Copier Service Contract	366.64
VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS INC	Internet Services	7,097.19
VILLAGE OF RICHFIELD	Law Enforcement Training	700.00
W W GRAINGER INC	Maintenance Materials & Supplies	122.14
WASTE MANAGEMENT OF OHIO INC	Disposal Services	1,613.85
WEST PUBLISHING CORP	Software Subscription	237.31
WILBERTS AUTO PARTS NE OHIO LLC	Vehicle Supplies	397.00
WL TUCKER SUPPLY COMPANY	Maintenance Materials & Supplies	173.14
WOLFF BROS SUPPLY INC	Maintenance Materials	151.70
WRC MEDIA LLC	Advertising	6,900.00
ZIEGLER TIRE & SUPPLY CO	Vehicle Supplies	454.40
ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CINCINNATI	Monkshood Propagation	4,800.00
		<u>1,844,828.78</u>